

PLEASE NOTE VENUE

NORTH NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM AGENDA



Wednesday 10th October 2007

at 2.00 pm

**in West View Community Centre,
Miers Avenue, Hartlepool**

MEMBERS: NORTH NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM:

Councillors Alison, Atkinson, Barker, Clouth, R Cook, Fenwick, Fleet (Chair), Fleming, Griffin, Jackson, J Marshall, Plant, Rogan, Wallace and Wright.

Resident Representatives:

John Cambridge, Don Davison, Irene Nelson, Joan Norman, Mary Power, Linda Shields (Vice-Chair), Joan Steel, Robert Steel and Maureen Waller

- 1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**
- 2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
- 3. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS**
- 4. MINUTES**
 - 4.1 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 8th August 2007 (*attached followed by updates on issues raised at the last meeting*)
 - 4.2 Matters arising
- 5. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

PLEASE NOTE VENUE

Break

(5/10 minutes to collect tea/coffee and back to seats whilst presentations are prepared)

6. RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE ISSUES

7. WARD MEMBERS AND WARD ISSUES

8. ITEMS FOR CONSULTATION

- 8.1 Presentation - Building Schools for the Future – Stage 4 Consultation – Special Educational Needs – *Assistant Director (Resources and Support Services)*
- 8.2 Winter Service Policy and Priorities – *Highway Services Manager*

9. ITEMS FOR DECISION

- 9.1 Minor Works Proposals – *Neighbourhood Manager (North)*

10. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION and/or INFORMATION

- 10.1 Presentation - Council Tax Reductions – *Community Engagement Officer*
- 10.2 Presentation – Nuclear New Builds – *British Energy*

11. DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the North Neighbourhood Consultative Forum is to be held at on Wednesday 28th November 2007 commencing at 10am at West View Community Centre, Miers Avenue.

12. ITEMS OF ANY OTHER BUSINESS AGREED BY THE CHAIR

NORTH NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM

WARDS

Brus
Dyke House
Hart
St Hilda
Throston

8 August 2007

MINUTES OF THE MEETING



The meeting commenced at 6.00pm at Throston Grange Community Centre,
Glamorgan Grove, Hartlepool

PRESENT:

Chair:	Councillor Mary Fleet	- Dyke House Ward
	Councillor Reuben Atkinson	- Dyke House Ward
	Councillor Caroline Barker	- Hart Ward
	Councillor Rob Cook	- Hart Ward
	Councillor Sheila Griffin	- Brus Ward
	Councillor Peter Jackson	- Throston Ward
	Councillor John Marshall	- St Hilda Ward
	Councillor Edna Wright	- Hart Ward

Resident Representatives:

John Cambridge, Don Davison, Irene Nelson, Joan Norman, Mary Power,
Joan Steel and Robert Steel

Public: Christine Blakey, David Nim, Dave Oliver, J Rowlands, Dave Thompson,
Cath Torley, Liz Torley, Richard Turner, Alan Vale, Dennis Wilson,
Maureen Waller, Dennis Waller

Officers: Denise Ogden, Head of Neighbourhood Management
Ann Callaghan, Neighbourhood Development Officer
Ian Burton, Environmental Enforcement Manager
Colin Kay, Environment Enforcement Officer
Joan Wilkins, Scrutiny Support Officer
Kay Tranter, Resources and Performance Officer
Phyl Rafferty, Senior Library Manager
Gary Jones, Neighbourhood Services Officer
Peter Frost, Traffic Team Leader
David Cosgrove, Principal Democratic Services Officer
Leanne Lupton, Clerical / Administrative Officer

Police Representatives: Sgt Ali Sah, PC John Southcott

Housing Hartlepool Representative: Janis Ledger

16. APPOINTMENT OF RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Prior to the commencement of the meeting there was an election for a resident representative for the Throston Ward. Maureen Waller was duly appointed.

17. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors, Clouth, Fleming and Plant and from Resident Representative Linda Shields (Vice Chair)

17. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS

None

18. MINUTES

The minutes for the North Neighbourhood Consultative Forum held on the 13 June 2007 were agreed subject to the following amendments:

A reference to resurfacing work that was requested at Verner Road should have referred to Winterbottom Avenue

The reference to converting the grass verge for parking in Gilberti Place should have referred to Rogeri Place.

19. MATTERS ARISING

Brus Arms Hotel – A resident expressed his opposition to the recent planning approval for demolition of the old Brus Arms and the erection of flats on the site.

Steetley/Britmag Site – Two residents asked when action was going to be taken to make the site secure as children were still accessing the site illegally. It was also reported that the street lights on the road to the site had suffered criminal

damage. The meeting requested that the issue be discussed in detail at the next meeting with appropriate officers present and representatives from the Environment Agency. The Head of Neighbourhood Management said she would investigate the matter further.

Illegal Parking – A Councillor indicated that he had previously raised the issue of illegal parking in the area and sited a number of issues he had reported to the Police that he considered they should have taken action over. The Councillor quoted the advice contained within the Highway Code and considered these problems should be dealt with more robustly. Concern in relation to the damage to footpaths and pedestrians having to walk on the road to pass parked vehicles was also raised.

Speeding Drive – A Councillor referred to the request in June for a traffic survey on Speeding Drive. There were particular problems due to a caravan blocking the sight lines out onto King Oswy Drive. The Traffic Team Leader replied that the caravan had been moved when officers visited the area.

Road Resurfacing – A Councillor asked for an update on the resurfacing works which were reported to be undertaken within a month of the previous meeting. The Head of Neighbourhood Management reported that there had been some issues relating to these works which had caused delays but these works should be back on track in two months.

Warren Road Gullies and Marine Drive Pathways – A Councillor requested an update as these works had been expected for some time. The Neighbourhood Services Officer indicated he would report back on the programme for these works.

Hartlepool Hospice, Wells Avenue – A Councillor commented that there were a number of bad potholes in the road which had been identified by Council staff on a number of occasions but had not been repaired in a year. The Head of Neighbourhood Management accepted that performance on pothole repairs had slipped recently but was being addressed.

King Oswy Safety Measures – A Councillor asked when the work would start on these safety improvements. The Traffic Team Leader said the works were scheduled to be carried out in the near future, hopefully during the school holidays.

19. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Falcon Road – A resident asked for an update on the closing of Falcon Road. The Traffic Team Leader advised that he was waiting for responses to a further consultation exercise with residents. The Forum requested an update following the conclusion of the consultation process.

Verner Road – A resident asked when the repairs to the pavements in Verner Road would be carried out. The Neighbourhood Services Officer indicated that the works were due to start next month. A resident complained about a dog persistently barking in Verner Road despite the matter having been taken up with the owner. The Head of Neighbourhood Management indicated that she would refer the matter to the dog warden.

Cleveland Road – A resident reported that the utility surface box in Cleveland Road that had previously been repaired was now sinking again. The Neighbourhood Services Officer said he would write to the utility company to ask them to repair it again.

Hart Village - A Councillor reported that the entrance from Hartlepool from Hart Village was visually very poor with the hedges very overgrown and in need of cutting back. Another Councillor said the roundabouts at the Raby Arms and Bishop Cuthbert were also in need of attention. The Head of Neighbourhood Management replied that the grass cutting and hedge trimming were in the works program and would be carried out soon.

20. RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE ISSUES

Clavering Road - A resident representative raised concern at the danger caused by traffic carrying out u-turns near Clavering School and asked if money from the minor works budget could be used to assist the school erect a barrier to prevent this. The Traffic Team Leader replied that some ideas had been put forward by the School Safety Officer after a recent traffic survey. The Head of Neighbourhood Management agreed to investigate the possibility of using the minor works budget to alleviate the danger.

Northgate/Warren Street – A resident Representative raised the issue of black bin bags being left out in the back lanes. She regularly had to request for the lane to be cleared and asked if letters had been sent to all the residents. The Head of Neighbourhood Management said that the letters would be sent next week.

Brus roundabout - A resident Representative asked why the roundabout had not been planted like many others in the town.

Waller Court and Atkinson Court - A resident Representative asked who was responsible for putting both Waller Court and Atkinson Court onto the street map as neither was on and this was causing

problems for residents, particularly when calling the emergency services. The Head of Neighbourhood Management said she would look into this.

A Resident Representative indicated that she believed that the Council and its senior officers were in contempt of court in relation to matters concerning the 'ghostships'. The Head of Neighbourhood Management said that she would take the comments up with the Chief Solicitor. The Forum requested that a full response to this matter be submitted to the next meeting.

21. WARD MEMBERS AND WARD ISSUES

Hart Ward

A Councillor reported that the anti-skid surface in King Oswy Drive was already wearing away and in need of repair.

A Councillor reported that incidents of fly tipping in the field opposite the Saxon pub had occurred over the weekend and stated that CCTV may be needed to monitor this problem. The Head of Neighbourhood Management reiterated the hotline number for reporting fly tipping (523333) and said she would look at the possibility of locating a covert camera on the site.

Dyke House Ward

A Councillor asked why the road calming measures had not been installed in Grainger Street. The Head of Neighbourhood Management said she would investigate and respond to the next meeting.

A Councillor asked when and where the road safety survey for Chatham Road would take place, as this had been approved in the minor works budget in October last year. The Head of Neighbourhood Management replied that some of the approved works were still

outstanding but she would respond to the next meeting as to when the survey would be undertaken.

Problems with fly tipping near the flats in Lime Crescent were reported. It was highlighted that the road markings for three parking spaces in the crescent had faded and need repainting.

St Hilda's Ward

A Councillor reported continued problems with motorbikes on the Headland Promenade during the early hours of the morning. He asked for action to be taken against the persons responsible. The Chair of the Forum replied this should perhaps be a matter for the North Police Forum. Sgt Sah reported that the Police were monitoring the situation and had the power to seize the bikes. There were obvious safety considerations in pursuing the bikes in this area that needed to be taken into account. If residents reported the problems to the Police they would take action and had recently seized and destroyed a number of bikes in the town.

22. SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION – 'AVAILABILITY OF GOOD QUALITY AFFORDABLE RENTED SOCIAL ACCOMMODATION IN HARTLEPOOL'

Cllr Shaun Cook, the Chair of the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum, indicated that the Forum was to commence an investigation into the availability of good quality affordable rented social accommodation in Hartlepool and drew attention to the increasing length of housing waiting lists held by the Council and the town's Registered Social Landlords.

The Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum would be dedicating a period of five months to explore this issue in detail and would during the course of its investigation be receiving

evidence/views from a variety of sources, including the Town's MP. The dates of the proposed meetings of the Forum were set out in the report to the Forum and Councillor Cook particularly encouraged anyone who had any interest in this area to attend the meeting on 27 September at 2.00pm at the Avondale Centre.

The Forum discussed the issue briefly at the meeting and made the following comments:

- Sites identified for housing including; Nicholson Way, Warren Road and the old Henry Smith School site.
- Street houses should be regenerated instead of being pulled down.
- The Scrutiny Forum should receive a copy of a report from Housing Hartlepool that states the town need just under 500 houses every year for this town.
- There is a shortage of bungalows and a surplus of flats.
- The amount of houses that currently stand empty every week
- The need for affordable housing, especially for first time buyers.

The Chair of the Forum thanked Cllr Shaun Cook for his attendance.

23. PRESENTATION - ANNUAL LIBRARY PLAN

The Senior Library Manager gave a presentation on the Annual Library Plan that is currently out for consultation.

Residents asked about funding and the possibility about the return of the bookbus. Kay Tranter, Resources and Performance Officer for the Libraries explained that the bookbus had been replaced with a housebound delivery service for a number of users after consultation with them.

A Councillor asked what proportion of funding was allocated to IT in libraries in comparison to books. The Resources and Performance Officer reported that significantly more funding was spent on books more than IT.

The Chair thanked the Senior Library Manager for his attendance.

24. REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING PLACES

The forum was invited to nominate a representative to the General Purposes Committee's Polling Review Sub Committee. The Forum nominated Resident Representative Joan Steel.

25. PRESENTATION – DOG CONTROL ORDERS

A presentation on the new Dog Control Orders was given by Ian Burton, Environmental Enforcement Manager. A questionnaire seeking views on the elements of the proposed orders was circulated during the meeting.

The Forum debated the issue and asked a number of questions of the officers. The main points raised were as follows: -

- The Forum backed the proposals outlined in the presentation but many commented the problems were with a minority of irresponsible dog owners.
- Why the dogs were allowed on certain beaches seasonally and not all year round. It was explained that not many people used the beach in the colder months.
- It was suggested that that dog licences should be brought back.
- The education of the owners was considered to be very important.

- Did dog wardens had power over horses fouling the beach. Ian Burton replied that horse manure was biodegradable and the legislation only covered dogs.
- Brus Beach should be included in the restricted areas.
- The forum was informed that Hartlepool Council does a lot more than the other authorities, including the microchipping dogs for free and neutering of dogs in collaboration with the Dogs Trust.
- There should be areas where dogs can be exercised properly.

The Chair thanked the Environmental Enforcement Manager for his attendance.

26. MINOR WORKS PROPOSALS

The Forum was asked to consider the following minor works schemes which would subsequently be reported to the Portfolio Holder for approval:

Scheme 1: Hart Ward, Swanage Grove – Residents have requested that to relieve traffic congestion, and to allow larger vehicles to pass without having to override onto the grassed area on this corner, that the grassed area be removed and the area be replaced with dense bituminous macadam (Tamac) creating a wider area for vehicular traffic to pass – estimated costs £7,325

Scheme 2: St Hild Ward, Union Street – Residents and ward members have made requests that a hand rail be fitted adjacent to the footpath on Union Street, starting at the top from Durham Street leading down to Northgate approximately 27 linear metres.- estimated costs £1,669

Scheme 3: Dyke House Ward, Hurworth Street – Residents of Hurworth Street have requested the removal of several seating areas currently situated adjacent to properties to resolve anti-social

behaviour problems. Residents would like to replace the seats with additional planting areas – estimated costs £2,000

Scheme 4: St Hild Ward, Town Moor – at the last meeting of the North Neighbourhood Consultative Forum approval was given to use £10,000 of Minor Works funding as contributory funding toward a Multi Use Games Areas (MUGA's) in the North. The Town Moor location is quite advanced in terms of developing a MUGA. The final stage to enable completion is to resurface, and improve the fencing on the multi use court, which is currently in a state of disrepair. The expected cost of replacement has been estimated at approximately £46,000 to £48,000.

To date £16,000 has been committed from Community Services Revenue budget. There is an application for £20,000 from the Football Foundation and additional funding for flood lighting will be sought from the Community Safety Capital Grant. The Forum was requested to confirm its £10,000

The Forum approved schemes 1, 2 and 3, at a cost of £10,994, to be recommended for approval to the Portfolio Holder.

The Forum reconfirmed its support and £10,000 contribution to the Town Moor MUGA proposal.

27. DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the North Neighbourhood Consultative Forum is to be held on Wednesday 10 October 2007, commencing at 2.00pm at West View Community Centre, Miers Avenue

The next meeting of the North Police and Community Safety Forum is to be held on Wednesday 5 September 2007

commencing at 10.00am at West View
Community Centre, Miers Avenue.

MARY FLEET

CHAIR

Wednesday, 8 August 2007

Issues Raised

ISSUE DETAILS	ACTION TAKEN	OFFICER
<p><u>Matters Arising</u></p> <p>Steetley/Britmag Site Two residents asked when action was going to be taken to make the site secure as children were still accessing the site illegally. It was also reported that the street lights on the road to the site had suffered criminal damage. The meeting requested that the issue be discussed in detail at the next meeting with appropriate officers present and representatives from the Environment Agency. The Head of Neighbourhood Management said she would investigate the matter further</p>	<p>Denise to give verbal update report will be provided at the Forum</p>	<p>Denise Ogden</p>
<p>Illegal Parking A Councillor indicated that he had previously raised the issue of illegal parking in the area and cited a number of issues he had reported to the Police that he considered they should have taken action over. The Councillor quoted the advice contained with the Highway Code and considered these problems should be dealt with more robustly. Concern in relation to the damage to footpaths and pedestrians having to walk on the road to pass parked vehicles was also raised.</p>	<p>Coaches, buses and heavy goods vehicles are not prevented from parking unless the highway is restricted by a vehicle weight restriction</p> <p>The patrol office is currently assessing the extent of the problem, gathering photographic evidence and details of the company operator licence, but on each visit the coach has not been present. Enforcement details have been forwarded to the resident and Ward Councillors</p>	<p>Phil Hepburn</p>
<p>Speeding Drive A Councillor referred to the request in June for a traffic survey on Speeding Drive. There were particular problems due to a caravan blocking the sight lines out onto King Oswy Drive. The Traffic Team Leader replied that the caravan had been moved when officers visited the area.</p>	<p>The caravan has re-appeared and a site assessment has taken place. It is around 25 – 30 metres from the junction and therefore could not be classed as causing an obstruction. There is a reasonable level of visibility and cars park closer to the junction without causing a great problem. Another caravan has appeared on the next block down but this is also some distance from the junction with Ridlington Way.</p>	<p>Peter Frost</p>

ISSUE DETAILS	ACTION TAKEN	OFFICER
<p><u>Matters Arising (Cont...)</u></p> <p>Road Resurfacing A Councillor asked for an update on the resurfacing works which were reported to be undertaken within a month of the previous meeting. The Head of Neighbourhood Management reported that there had been some issues relating to these works which had caused delays but these works should be back on track in two months.</p>	<p>All the North road resurfacing schemes are now complete. There are footpath schemes outstanding, work is in progress to complete these schemes in the near future.</p>	<p>Garry Jones</p>
<p>Warren Road Gullies and Marine Drive Pathways A Councillor requested an update as these works had been expected for some time.</p>	<p>Marine Drive Pathways works have been completed. Warren road Gullies The money for this work would have to come out of Capital Funding. There is a meeting with Tech services to discuss an overall town strategy</p>	<p>Garry Jones</p>
<p>Hartlepool Hospice, Wells Avenue A Councillor commented that there were a number of bad potholes in the road which had been identified by Council staff on a number of occasions but had not been repaired in a year. The Head of Neighbourhood Management accepted that performance on pothole repairs had slipped recently but was being addressed.</p>	<p>The work in Wells Avenue is now complete</p>	<p>Garry Jones</p>
<p>King Oswy Safety Measures A Councillor asked when the work would start on these safety improvements. The Traffic Team Leader said the works were scheduled to be carried out in the near future, hopefully during the school holidays.</p>	<p>A scheme price was received from the DSO in early September, which was some way over the allocated budget. This was due to the addition of a long row of bollards to the scheme, and discussions are to take place between the Portfolio Holder and ward councillors about the necessity of installing these bollards.</p>	<p>Peter Frost</p>

ISSUE DETAILS	ACTION TAKEN	OFFICER
<p><u>Public Question Time</u></p> <p>Falcon Road A resident asked for an update on the closing of Falcon Road. The Traffic Team Leader advised that he was waiting for responses to a further consultation exercise with residents. The Forum requested an update following the conclusion of the consultation process.</p>	<p>2nd phase of consultation has just finished. An update on the likely course of action should be available for the Forum meeting.</p>	<p>Peter Frost</p>
<p>Verner Road A resident asked when the repairs to the pavements in Verner Road would be carried out. The Neighbourhood Services Officer indicated that the works were due to start next month.</p> <p>A resident complained about a dog persistently barking in Verner Road despite the matter having been taken up with the owner. The Head of Neighbourhood Management indicated that she would refer the matter the dog warden.</p>	<p>All road resurfacing schemes are now complete. The footway schemes are ongoing.</p> <p>Public Protection have monitored the barking issue and have recently closed the case due to lack of evidence</p>	<p>Garry Jones</p> <p>Stephanie Bristow</p>
<p>Cleveland Road A resident reported that the utility safety box in Cleveland Road that had previously been repaired was now sinking again.</p>	<p>This has been reported to the utility company for repair.</p>	<p>Garry Jones</p>
<p>Hart Village A Councillor reported that the entrance from Hartlepool from Hart Village was visually very poor with the hedges very overgrown and in need of cutting back. Another Councillor said the roundabouts at the Raby Arms and Bishop Cuthbert were also in need of attention.</p>	<p>The Flailing of the Verges and hedge rows on the North entrances has now been completed. Other works are planned for these areas as part of the Key routes strategy. To which the North forum has contributed.</p>	<p>Garry Jones</p>

ISSUE DETAILS	ACTION TAKEN	OFFICER
<p><u>Resident Representatives Issues</u></p> <p>Clavering Road A resident representative raised concern at the danger caused by traffic carrying out u-turns near Clavering School and asked if money from the minor works budget could be used to assist the school erect a barrier to prevent this. The Traffic Team Leader replied that some ideas had been put forward from by the School Safety Officer after a recent traffic survey.</p> <p>The Head of Neighbourhood Management agreed to investigate the possibility of using the minor works budget to alleviate the danger.</p>	<p>A central island could be installed to discourage vehicles from carrying out U turns in the school entrance. A design is currently being worked on and this will be priced up ASAP, should funding be available.</p> <p>Future Minor Works Scheme</p>	<p>Peter Frost</p> <p>Garry Jones</p>
<p>Northgate/Warren Street A resident rep raised the issue of black bin bags being left out in the back lanes. She regularly had to request for the lane to be cleared and asked if letters had been sent to all the residents. The Head of Neighbourhood Management said that the letters would be sent next week.</p>	<p>Letters have been sent out by our Enforcement Team. We will now monitor the area. Residents are encouraged to report incidents on 523333</p>	<p>Garry Jones</p>
<p>Brus roundabout A resident rep asked why the roundabout had not been planted like many others in the town.</p>	<p>Brus roundabout has been designed with static planting rather than annual planting design</p>	<p>Albert Cope</p>
<p>Waller Court and Atkinson Court A resident rep asked who is responsible for putting both Waller Court and Atkinson Court onto the street map as neither was on and this was causing problems for residents, particularly when calling the emergency services. The Head of Neighbourhood Management said she would look into this.</p>	<p>Waller Court is defiantly on the map Atkinson Court is not, but will be included in the next print of maps</p>	

ISSUE DETAILS	ACTION TAKEN	OFFICER
<p><u>Resident Representatives Issues (Cont...)</u></p> <p>“Ghost Ships” A Resident Representative indicated that she believed that the Council and its senior officers were in contempt of court in relation to matters concerning the ‘ghost ships’. The Head of Neighbourhood Management said that she take the comments up with the Chief Solicitor. The Forum requested that a full response to this matter be submitted to the next meeting.</p>	<p>Denise to give verbal update report will be provided at the Forum</p>	<p>Denise Ogden</p>
<p><u>Ward Members and Ward Issues</u></p> <p>Hart Ward A Councillor reported that the anti-skid surface in King Oswy Drive was already wearing away and in need of repair.</p>	<p>Issue noted and will be discussed as part of the Highways Maintenance Strategy</p>	<p>Paul Mitchinson</p>
<p>A Councillor reported that the incidents of fly tipping in the field opposite the Saxon pub had occurred over the weekend and stated that CCTV may be needed to monitor this problem. The Head of Neighbourhood Management reiterated the hotline number for reporting fly tipping (523333) and said she would look at the possibility of locating a covert camera on the site.</p>	<p>The Enforcement Team have investigated the flytipping issues and have discovered children are removing the bags of polystyrene from the nearby building site. The children have been warned and the area is being monitored</p>	<p>Ian Burton</p>
<p>Dyke House Ward</p> <p>A Councillor asked why the road calming measures had not been installed in Grainger Street. The Head of Neighbourhood Management said she would investigate and respond to the next meeting.</p>	<p>Traffic calming in Grainger Street is being funded by the Dyke House/ Stranton/ Grange NAP Forum. The scheme is out to consultation at the moment, with the majority of replies so far being in favour</p>	<p>Peter Frost</p>

ISSUE DETAILS	ACTION TAKEN	OFFICER
<p>Dyke House Ward (Cont...)</p> <p>A Councillor asked when and where the road safety survey for Chatham Road would take place, as this had been approved in the minor works budget in October last year. The Head of Neighbourhood Management replied that some of the approved works were still outstanding but she would respond to the next meeting as to when the survey would be undertaken.</p>	<p>Chatham Road traffic calming works are also being funded by the Dyke House/ Stranton/ Grange NAP Forum. A scheme has been designed, and a cost just received. This is to be fed back to the DH/S / G NAP to determine if sufficient funding is available, before consultation takes place.</p>	<p>Peter Frost</p>
<p>Problems with fly tipping near the flats in Lime Crescent were reported. It was highlighted that the road markings for three parking spaces in the crescent had faded and need repainting.</p>	<p>Flytipping removed and we will continue to monitor the situation. Lines will be refreshed if needed</p>	<p>Garry Jones</p>

Report of: Highway Services Manager

Subject: WINTER SERVICE POLICY AND PRIORITIES

1. BACKGROUND

1.1 Objectives and Statutory Basis

The objectives of the Winter Service are:

Safety Safety is a prime consideration for the Winter Service.

Serviceability Maintaining availability and reliability of the highway network is a key objective for the Winter Service and one where user judgements of performance will be immediate rather than longer term.

Sustainability Low temperatures and the formation of ice can cause serious damage to the fabric of running surfaces and the Winter Service can therefore make an important contribution to whole life costs.

The statutory basis for providing a Winter Service was introduced on 31st October 2003. The amendment states that "...In particular, a highway authority is under a duty to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that safe passage along a highway is not endangered by snow or ice...." The duty however is not simply to clear snow and ice. The wording of the amendment puts a duty on the authority to ensure safe passage is not endangered by snow or ice and therefore preventative gritting falls within this new duty.

The duty applies to the whole highway network but is not absolute – it is a duty to ensure so far as is reasonably practicable.

1.2 Limitations

Given the scale of financial resources involved in delivering the Winter Service and difficulties in maintaining high levels of plant utilisation for specialist equipment, it is not practically possible either to:

- provide the service on all parts of the Network
- ensure running surfaces are kept free of ice or snow at all times, even on the treated parts of the network

In these circumstances it is important to:

- define the extent of the service
- detail the policies and operational plans, which are based on the principles of risk assessment,
- ensure that these are widely known and understood especially by users, together with relevant advice on safe use of the network
- continually monitor performance during service delivery and respond effectively to changing conditions or network incidents.

1.3 Winter Service Policy and Priorities

The Winter Service is a significant aspect of highway network management both financially and in terms of its perceived importance to users. It also has significant environmental effects and the organisation of the service has considerable implications for the overall procurement and operational management of other highway maintenance services.

The current Policy and Priorities are based upon the Code of Practice for Highway Maintenance Management (July 2005). As a consequence, the network hierarchy and route plans have been designed to take into account the need for economic, efficient and effective resource utilisation and to accommodate:-

- transport and other policy priorities
- known problems, including significant gradients, exposed areas and other factors
- climatic and thermal differences within the area
- co-ordination and co-operation with other authorities
- overall risk assessment including the need to maintain consistency

2. CURRENT POSITION

The Winter Service has been delivered in Hartlepool in accordance with the current Policy and Priorities for two full winter seasons and has been tested in some of the worst type of winter conditions. Snow events are always the most difficult to deal with both in terms of dealing with the conditions and in terms of the duration of such events. A number of such events have been dealt with satisfactorily and with very little complaint from members of public during the past two seasons. Under the circumstances it would appear that the level of service decided upon following consultation in 2003 and 2005 is appropriate. Nevertheless, this consultation provides members of the public an opportunity to put forward recommendation/observations regarding their experiences in winter conditions for consideration. Whilst inevitably there are limitations to the service that can be provided, the highway network is a constantly evolving asset and changes need to be implemented from time to time.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

The winter service is an issue that may not be at the top of anyone's agenda in early October and is also a large service covering a lot of area. As a consequence, the issues an individual may have may not be at the top of their minds at the moment and even if they are, can often be very detailed and in excess of anything that can be answered at this forum. As a consequence, this report and presentation are put forward to provoke your thoughts on the matter. All issues of concern can be addressed to:-

Paul Mitchinson
Highway Services Manager
Hartlepool Borough Council
1, Church Street
Hanson Square
Hartlepool TS26 8DS

or

paul.mitchinson@hartlepool.gov.uk

or

you can speak directly to Paul at the end of the Forum.

Report of: Neighbourhood Manager (North)

Subject: MINOR WORKS PROPOSALS

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To consider improvement schemes for potential funding from the North Neighbourhood Consultative Forum Minor Works Budget.

2 ST HILDA WARD - BELL BUOY AND FISHING COBBLES (APPENDIX A)

- 2.1 The Friends of Croft Gardens have been donated two fishing cobbles and a bell buoy. Three locations on the Headland have been identified for these to be used as features to link in with the Maritime Heritage of the area. The three areas are: -

- Inside Croft Gardens
- At the junction with Cleveland road and West View Road
- On the corner of Northgate / Russell Street

- 2.2 The cobble boats will be half sunken into the ground and planted up with annual flowers as features to the Headland.

- 2.3 There is repair work to be done on the two fishing boats; sanding down and painting. There are planning permission costs, transport costs and planting costs.

- 2.4 The total cost for this scheme is **£1,675**

3. BRUS WARD - WEST VIEW ROAD VERGE WORKS (APPENDIX B)

- 3.1 Residents have made requests for the grass verges outside of their properties to be removed and infill with Tarmac. They state that there is a major problem with cars overriding the grass verges outside their properties making them unsightly and dangerous. The properties affected are: -

- Nos. 253 – 257 (32 mtrs long)

- Nos. 291 – 295 (32 mtrs long)
- Nos. 283 – 287 (32 mtrs long)
- Nos. 307 – 309 (32 mtrs long)

3.2 The total cost for this scheme is **£5,200**

4. HART WARD - BAMBURGH ROAD VERGE WORK (APPENDIX C)

4.1 Residents and Ward Members have made requests for improved parking on a section of Bamburgh Road. We suggest that part of the grass verge be removed and infill with Tarmac to provide an area where vehicles can pull onto. The length of verge is 28 mtrs x 1 mtr

4.2 The total cost of this work is **£1,200**

5. THROSTON – THROSTON GRANGE LANE (APPENDIX D)

5.1 Residents and Ward Members have made requests for an improved parking scheme between Nos. 220 & 236 Thornton Grange Lane.

5.2 Parking is a major problem in this part of Thornton Grange Lane and we suggest that a 30 mtr length of footpath be taken up and replaced with Tarmac to enable off road parking and for a new footpath to be constructed for pedestrians

5.3 Total cost for this scheme is **£9,700**

6. ST HILDA - CLEVELAND ROAD - TRAFFIC ISLAND (APPENDIX E)

6.1 Residents of the Central Estate would like to see the provision of a traffic island on Cleveland Road.

2 For a number of years residents have experienced increased numbers and speed of traffic along this route, and have found that crossing the main road to gain access to the bus stop very difficult, particularly for the elderly and families with young children.

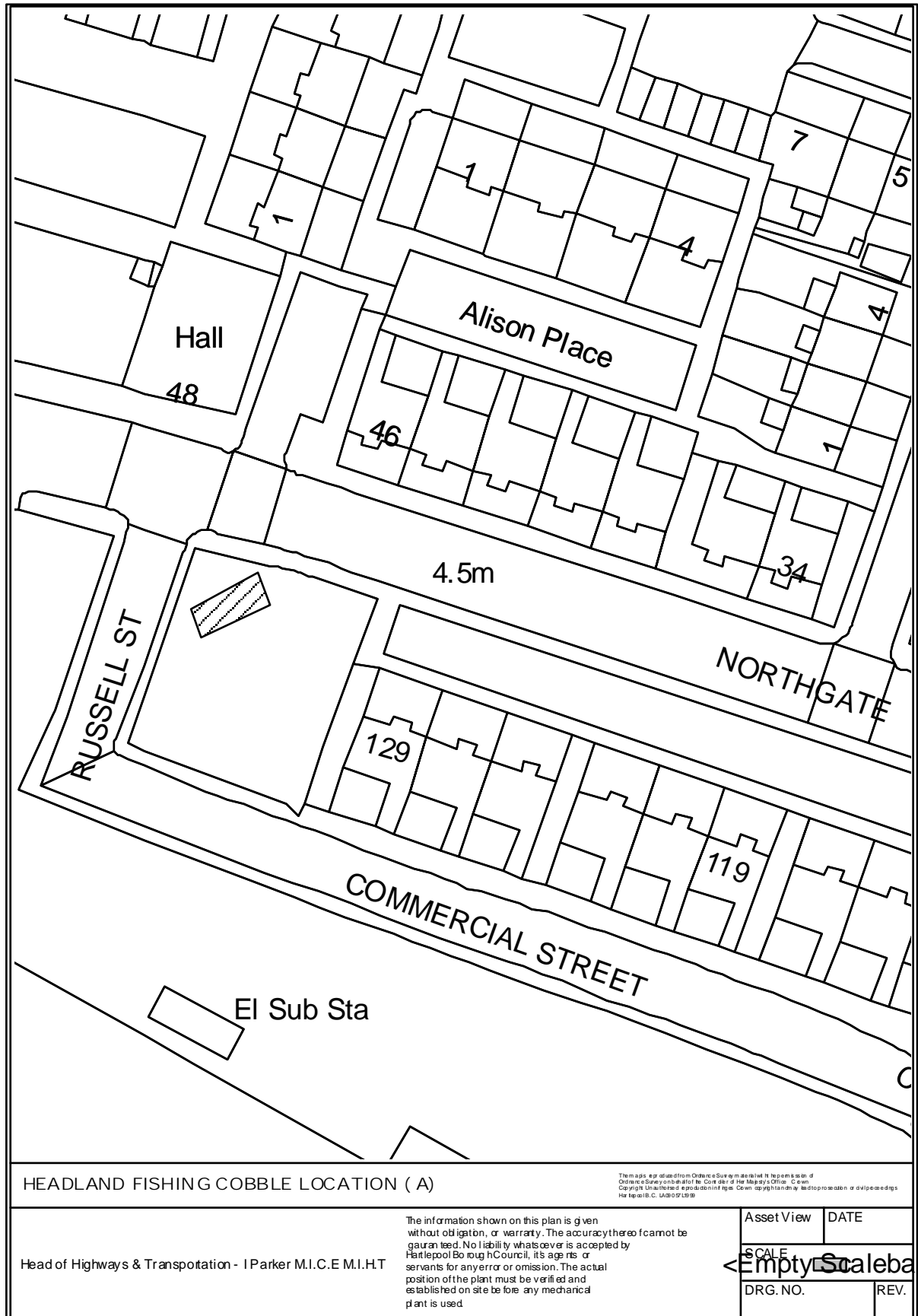
6.3 Traffic surveys have been carried out by the Highways division. The findings over the last three years have shown 0 accidents on Cleveland Road, and speed surveys recorded 85th percentile figures of 37mph. , the road is fairly low down the priority list when compared with other roads in the town with higher accident records.

- 6.4 Given the current situation the Central Estate Neighbourhood Action Plan Group are proposing to use their Neighbourhood Renewal fund monies (£22,000 – £29,000) toward the provision of a traffic island, which has been costed at £48,800.
- 6.5 The Neighbourhood manager has secured £4,000 from the Community Safety budget and £10,000 from the Highways budget. Residents are asking the Forum for £5,000 toward the final cost of the project.
- 6.6 Contribution towards this scheme is **£5,000**

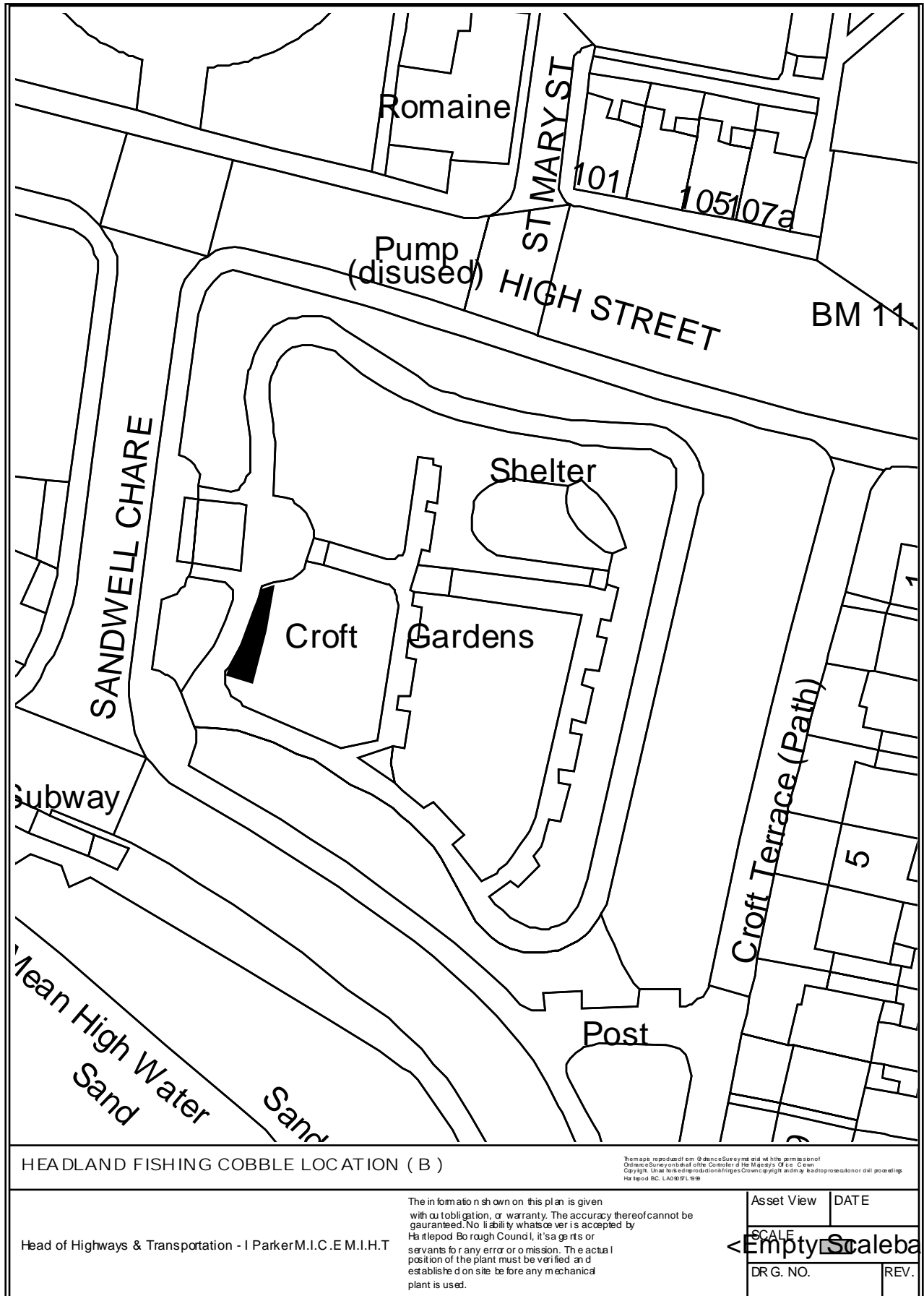
7. RECOMMENDATION

- 7.1 The Forum is asked to consider the above schemes.
- 7.2 Approved schemes will need to be presented to the Regeneration, Liveability and Housing Portfolio for final approval.

9.1 Appendix A

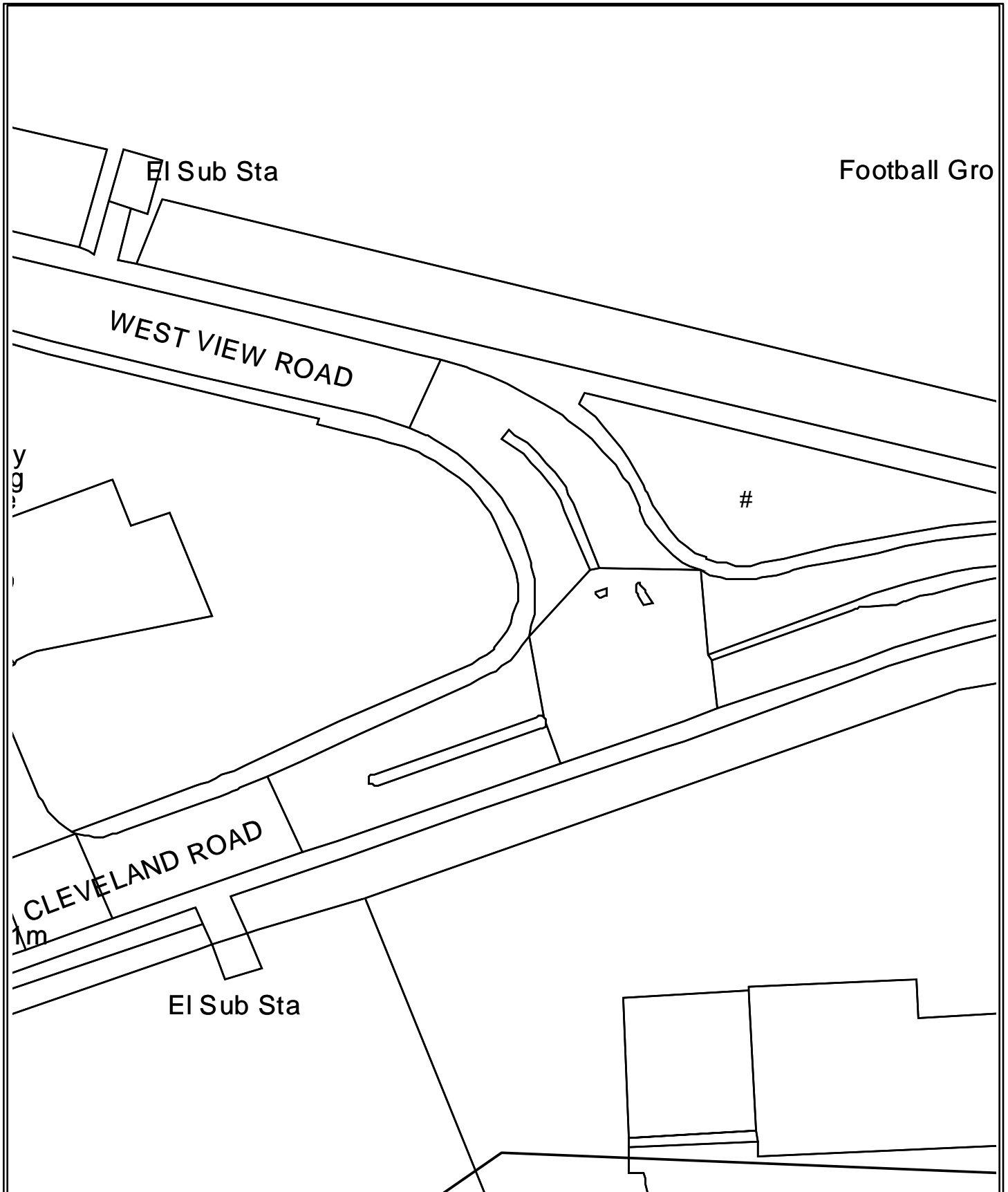


Appendix A



Appendix A





Location for bell bouy

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Head of Highways & Transportation - I Parker M.I.C.E M.I.H.T

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Appendix A





WEST VIEW ROAD VERGE WORKS

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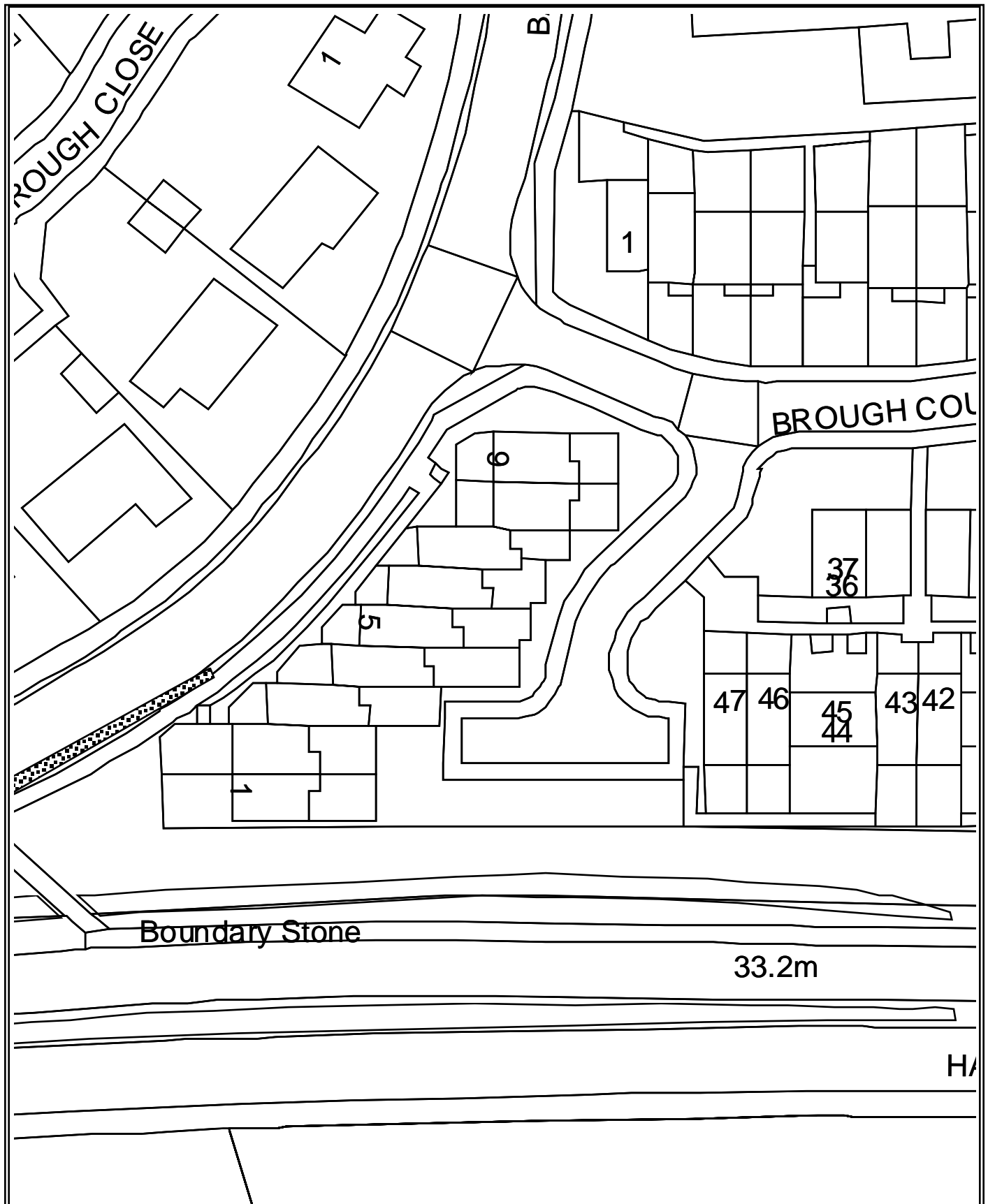
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Appendix B





BAMBURGH ROAD VERGE WORKS

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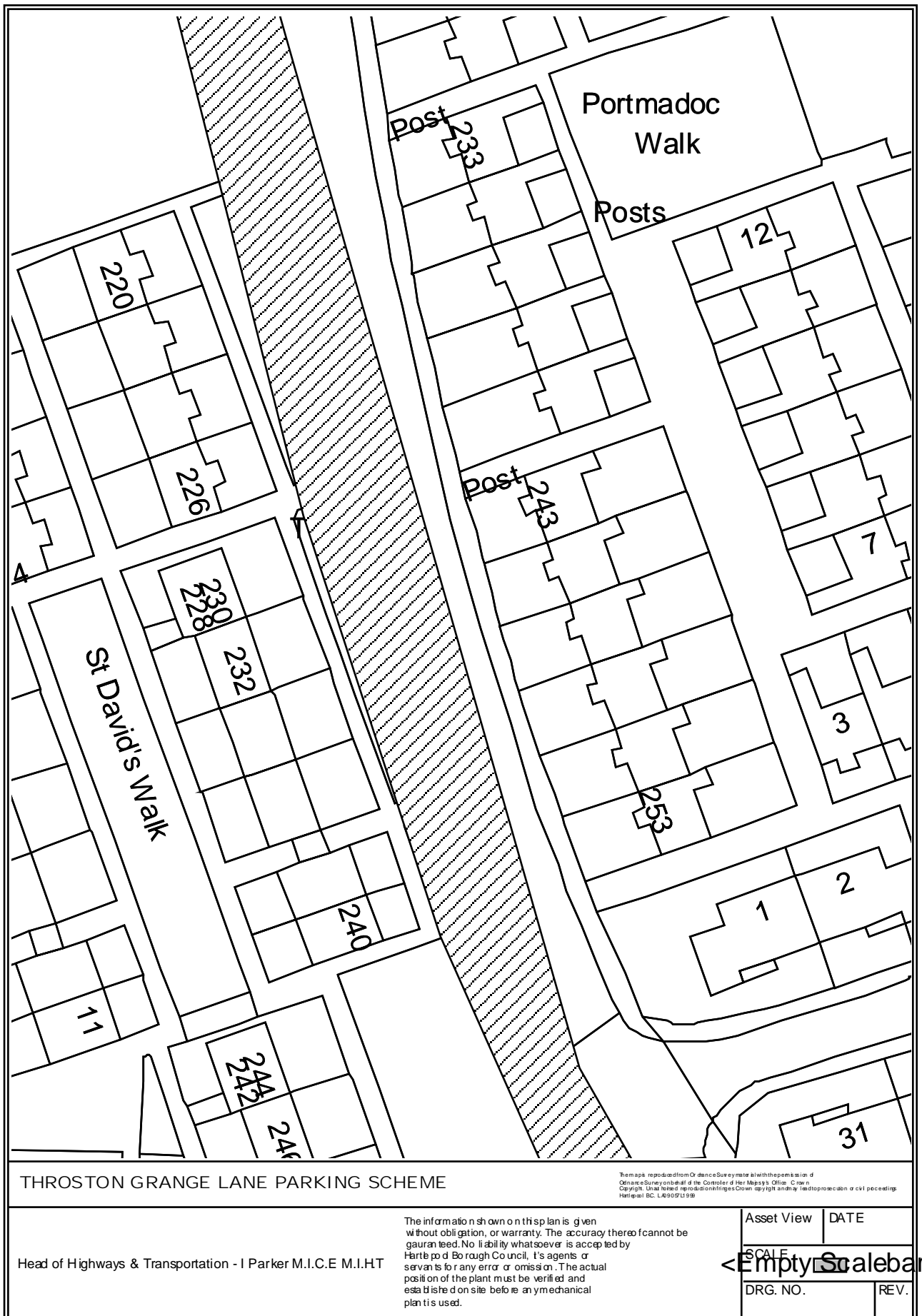
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Appendix C

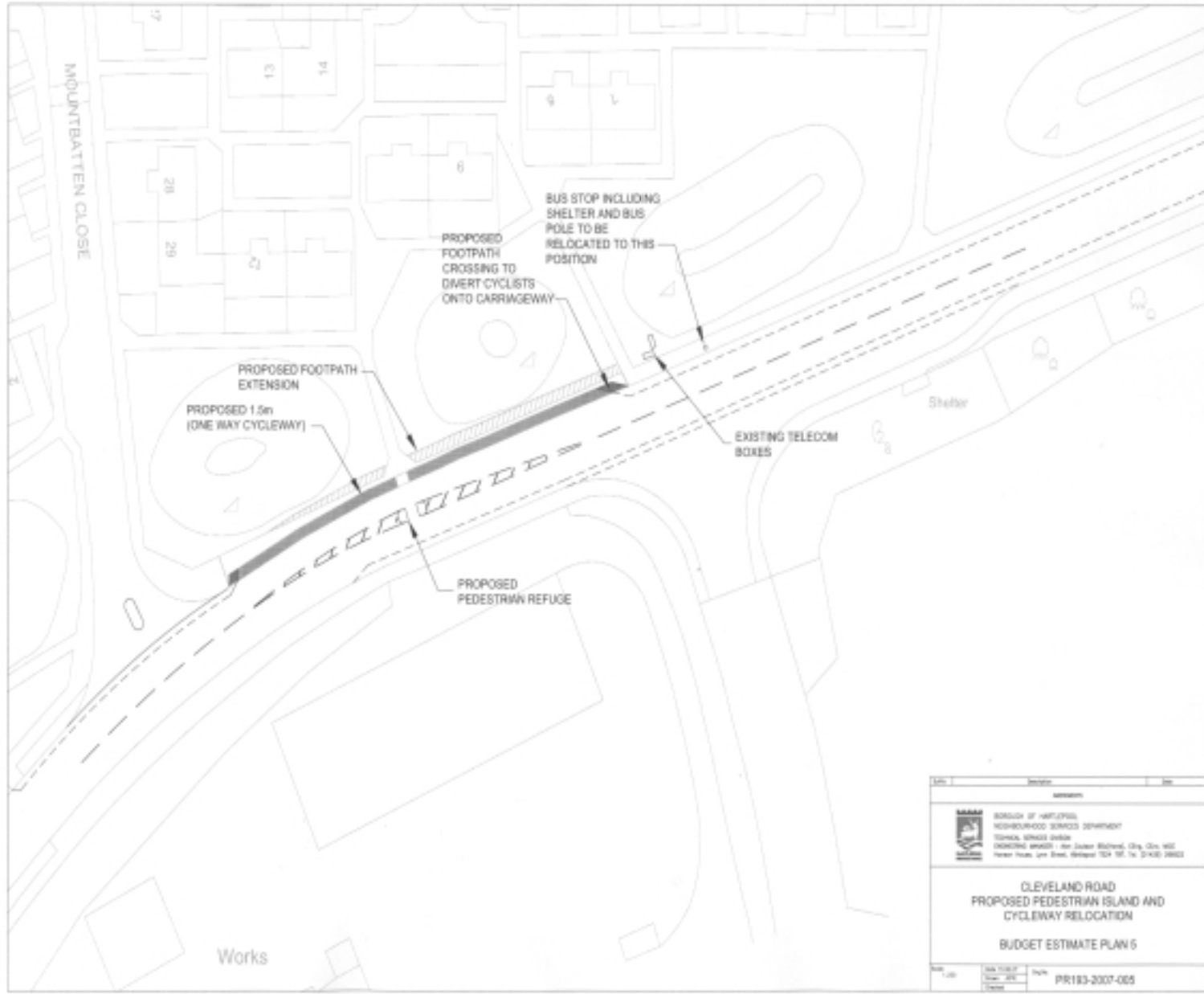




Appendix D



Appendix E



North Neighbourhood Consultative Forum

Minor Works - 2007/2008 - £87,000

Budget Code – AR50130

Forum - £52,000
Highway Maintenance - £20,000
Grass Verges - £15,000

Ward	Name of Scheme	Date Approved	Minor Works Funding £	Other Funding
Various	Dropped crossings	13 June 2007	3,500	
Various	Pride in Hartlepool	13 June 2007	5,000	
Hart	Muirfield Walk Landscaping	13 June 2007	8,400	
Hart	Marley Walk Environmental Improvements	13 June 2007	4,250	
Various	Key Routes	13 June 2007	20,000	
Various	Multi Use Games Areas	13 June 2007	10,000	
Hart	Swanage Grove Removal of grassed areas	8 August 2007	7,325	
St Hilda	Union Street Hand rail	8 August 2007	1,669	
Dyke House	Hurworth Street Removal of seating areas	8 August 2007	2,000	
Total spend			£62,144	
Total Left			£24,856	

Minor Works Schemes – 2007/08

Ward	Total cost of Schemes
Brus	
Dyke House	2,000
Hart	19,975
St Hilda	1,669
Throston	
Various	38,500
TOTAL	62,144